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1. Sinkiang Province [at times also referred to as Dzungaria, East Turkestan, Chinese Turkestan, Turkistan, Turkestan, and Central Asia] is possibly the earliest home of the human race; inhabited since the earliest times by nomadic tribes. Although the total area of Sinkiang is 705,769 square miles, the 1941 survey of the population, the last known effort to tackle this immensely difficult project, gives the total population of the province as 3,730,000 people. This figure undoubtedly is no longer accurate.
2. Sinkiang Province is divided into 10 administrative districts. The four districts of Kashgar, Khotan, Aqsu and Yarkand contain over two-thirds of the population. The pastoral areas, which make up about a quarter of the province, are inhabited by only 10 per cent of the population. Some two-thirds of the total area of Sinkiang is completely uninhabited. The cultivated areas make up less than five per cent of the total area but contain almost 90 per cent of the people. The greatest concentration of the population is in the southwestern corner of the province and in the Ili Valley region, both near the Soviet border.
3. The population is divided, economically, between those who live by cultivation and those who depend on animal husbandry. Other occupations, such as trade and handicrafts, are of less importance.
4. In religion, the people are divided among the Moslem, Confucian-Buddhist-Taoist, Lama-Buddhist and Greek Orthodox faiths, with an overwhelming predominance of Moslems. The sedentary oasis Moslems, though less strict in religious observance than many other Islamic peoples, are more strict than the pastoral Moslems.
5. The racial division in Sinkiang points to a mixture of two main racial elements. One is the racial type designated as Alpine, relatively tall with wavy hair, gray or brown eyes, thin prominent nose, light skin and thick facial and body hair. The other is the racial type known as Mongoloid, relatively short with straight hair, black eyes with the "Mongolian fold", nose broad at the base, light brown skin, slight facial and body hair, and other features characteristic of the peoples of continental eastern Asia. The racial make-up of Sinkiang suggests that invading Mongoloid peoples, largely nomadic, have merged in varying degrees with an indigenous Alpine population.

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6. The Sinkiang Central Government, under the direction of Governor Sheng Shih-tsai, classified the peoples of Sinkiang into fourteen different races. These major races, named in the order of their number in Sinkiang are: Uighur (also spelled and referred to as: Uigur, Ch'an Hui, Ch'an T'ou, Moslen, Sart, Turki, Kazakh, Kazak, Kasak, Chinese, Tungan (Dungan), Kirghiz (Kerheitze), Mongol (Chahar, Khoshot, Olot, Torgut and Urianghai), Taranchi, Russian, Sibo (Hsipo), Tadjik, Tajik, Sarikolis, Iranian, Uzbek (Uzbek), Tatar (Tartar, Noghai), Solon (Solun), Manchu. Besides these fourteen predominant races, there are to be found in Sinkiang other minority races such as Bashkir, Kara Kalpak, Kipchak, Loplik, Turkmen, etc.
7. The main languages spoken in Sinkiang can be distributed among three distinct linguistic families, the Altaic, Indo-Chinese and the Indo-European. The languages in the Altaic group are distributed among three subgroups, the Turkic, Mongolian and Tungus. The Kazakh, Kirghiz, Tatar, Taranchi, Uighur and Uzbek races speak the Turkic language, the Mongols speak the Mongolian language and the Tungusic language is spoken by the Manchus, Sibos and Solons. The Mandarin dialect of the Chinese language is spoken by both the Tungsans and Chinese; this language is under the Indo-Chinese group. The Tadjiks speak the Iranian language and the Russians, of course, the Russian. The latter two falling into the Indo-European group of languages.

Note: This report will be followed by individual reports on each of the races of Sinkiang Province. These reports will give the origin, physical characteristics, dress, customs, eating habits, etc., of each of the races.

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